

BRIDGEPORT AS IT WAS

100-50-20-YEARS AGO

(Taken from the Files of The Evening Farmer)

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

ENGLISH MAGNANIMITY.

(Copy of a letter from Lieut. N. D. Nicholson, of the late U. S. Brig Syren, to Capt. Samuel Evans, commanding Naval Officer at New York, dated, New York, Aug. 21, 1815.

SIR—Conceiving it my duty to make known the treatment exhibited by British officers and men to those who are so unfortunate as to fall into their power, I am induced to acquaint you with the following circumstances:

After the surrender of the Syren to the Medway, the officers and the crew of the former were removed to the latter, the crew not being allowed the privilege of taking their clothing, etc. with them so that the prize crew had a fair opportunity of plundering such articles as they thought proper, which opportunity they took care to profit by, as many of our men were pillaged of every property they possessed, excepting what they had on at the time; and the officers were plundered in like manner on board the Medway; the midshipmen, some of them were completely stripped, others lost their watches, &c.

For my part I came off with the loss of half my clothing and thought myself well off, compared with the loss of my shipmates. The morning after our capture we were quartered on the quarter deck to undergo a search; the men were there stripped to the skin and, their clothing not returned, so that many of them were left without anything more than a shirt and trousers; the next day Mr. Barton (the first Lieut. of the Medway) distributed the clothing he had taken from our men, to his Quarter-masters and Quarter Gunners, in my presence.

After being on board the Medway five weeks, we were landed at Simons Town, twenty-five miles to the Eastward of Good Hope, myself and brother officers paroled, and then marched to Cape Town under an escort of dragoons, being obliged to ford a lake on the march where the boys were compelled to go over on the backs of the tall men; this march of twenty miles was performed in one day, and without shoes or food.

Their shoes were stolen by the crew of the Medway while they were asleep; after remaining in this situation nearly 8 months, without bed or bedding, (they were not even furnished with straw), and their hammocks were taken, a plea being made that they were public property; they were all embarked in different men of war and Indians, for England; myself with about 60 officers and men, in the Cumberland, 74 guns, Captain Baker; were all put on the lower gun deck without distinction, among their own crew and fed on prisoner's allowance; and on my remonstrating with the captain for receiving such treatment, he ordered me off the quarter-deck, with a threat at the same time to put me in irons. We remained in this situation eighteen days, after which Lieuts. Gordon, German, and myself, were removed to the Grampus, 50, at St. Helena, admitted to the ward room mess, and treated with civility. I have the honor, &c., &c.

H. D. NICHOLSON,
Capt. of the late Good Brig Syren
U. S. N.

FIFTY YEARS AGO.

HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

As Mr. Stephen Nichols was crossing the Housatonic Railway track at Washington avenue, this forenoon, the 10:30 Express up on that road, struck his wagon, smashing it to pieces, throwing him out, Mr. Nichols, fortunately escaping with a cut on the head. The horse was uninjured and ran rapidly down the avenue until stopped by a man some distance away. We are informed that no whistle was sounded, until close upon the wagon, and that the train was going at a very high rate of speed, so fast, indeed, that it was not checked until it had gone from 200 to 250 feet from the crossing, and even then the officials who had it in charge did not send back to see what damage was done.

How long are the people of this city to be at the mercy of this reckless corporation?

Gentlemen, of the Special Common Council Committee will you act, and promptly in this matter?

This company seems only half satisfied with the terrible tragedy of the 15th. The people appeal to you for protection.

CLOSING OF VOLUNTEER REFRESHMENT SALOONS

Philadelphia, Sept. 3, 1865.
The Philadelphia volunteer refreshment saloons closed at noon today after having during four years and three months, entertained all soldiers passing through the city numbering 1,200,000 persons, without expense to the soldiers or the Government. The Union saloons will, however, still be used to entertain returning veterans as long as any funds remain.

HE LEFT OUR CITY.

Mr. J. S. Corbin, the Assistant Principal of the Bridgeport Business College, left this morning for Burlington, Vt., to take charge of the college at that place. Mr. Corbin leaves many warm friends in this city, who sincerely regret his departure. He carries with him their warmest wishes for his success.

TWENTY YEARS AGO.

WEDDING BELLS.

At 11:30 this morning, in St. Mary's church, Miss Monica Kelley, and Mr. Hugh Lavery were united in marriage. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Richard J. Carroll and was witnessed by a large number of friends of the contracting parties. Miss Alice Farley, a cousin of the bride, was bridesmaid, and Mr. Michael Lavery, a brother of the groom, acted as best man.

The bride was attired in a traveling gown of dark blue material with velvet trimmings of the same color. She presented a charming appearance.

The bride who is the only daughter of Sheriff Thomas Kelley, was until recently principal of the Jane street school. She is a highly accomplished young lady and has a host of friends. The groom is a well

TORRINGTON SHOP TIED UP AS 900 MACHINISTS QUIT

Torrington, Conn., Sept. 4.—Over 900 men, practically the entire force at the plant of the Hendey Machine company, walked out at 8 o'clock this morning. They are striking for an eight hour day, 15 per cent. increase in wages and time and half for overtime. A petition for these concessions was circulated through the shop and at a meeting held Thursday evening a committee was named to present the demands to the company. They were presented yesterday but were refused by the company. The decision to strike was reached at a meeting held last night.

Suspend Penalty on Man Who Took Car Without Leave

A sentence of six months in jail which was suspended, was meted out to James Gerard, a former employe of the Blue Ribbon Garage, now living at 24 Pacific street, Stamford, by Judge Frederic A. Bartlett in the city court this morning.

Gerard was arrested in Greenwich on Thursday of this week, charged with the theft of an automobile from the Blue Ribbon garage on Fairfield avenue, the property of Max Cohen, salesman in the employ of the Connecticut Auto and Sales company.

Gerard was taken to this city yesterday morning by Detective James Brady, in city court to-day he pleaded guilty to the charge of theft and in view of the fact that a wife and three children are depending on him for support, Judge Bartlett suspended execution of the sentence.

ALLEGED BICYCLE THIEF IS REMANDED

A continuance until Friday of next week was granted by Judge Frederic A. Bartlett, in the case of John Spolini, 1846 Main street, under bonds of \$500, in the city court this morning. Spolini is charged with the theft of a bicycle valued at \$60 from the yard of John Murphy, 641 Hallett street.

Governor Whitman ordered out Co. 6 of the National Guard at Watertown, N. Y., to take charge of the strike situation at the St. Regis Paper Mills.

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MRS. MOHR AIDS PLANS TO FIGHT MURDER CHARGE

Both Sides Busy Preparing Cases in Providence Motor Shooting.

Providence, R. I., Sept. 4.—The representatives of the prosecution and defense in the case of Mrs. Elizabeth Tiffany Blair Mohr, accused by three negroes of having hired them to murder her husband, Dr. C. Franklin Mohr, bent their energies today in seeking to strengthen their respective sides. The officials of the town of Barrington and the county of Bristol, in whose jurisdiction Dr. Mohr was shot, admitted today that so far their case against the woman was a weak one. They pointed out that something more than the confessions of the negroes was needed for conviction for confessions tending to incriminate other persons have no standing in the courts of Rhode Island.

Barrington police officers were searching for two men who, it was understood, had overheard a conversation between two motorcyclists on the night of the shooting. Two negroes who have admitted their complicity in the physician's death rode to the scene of the crime on motorcycles.

Arthur Cushing, attorney for Mrs. Mohr, continued his quest for a will of the doctor, previous searches having failed to produce anything except a document which, Mr. Cushing states, could not be produced.

It is understood that in this document Dr. Mohr sought to relieve his wife of all interest in his estate. Charles M. Mohr, of New York, one of two children of Dr. Mohr by a former marriage, made two unsuccessful attempts to see Miss Emily G. Burger, the doctor's secretary, who is recovering from bullet wounds received at the time her employer was killed. After his last effort early today, he remarked to one of the doctors that he did not think there would be any disagreement

in the Mohr family over the disposition of his father's estate in the absence of a will. He said that he and his stepmother had virtually agreed upon a division of the property which he estimated to be worth \$400,000. He expected to receive \$50,000 and his sister, Mrs. Ernest Marr, of Baltimore, a like amount. The rest of the estate, he said, would probably go to Mrs. Mohr and her two children.

Junkman Arrested For Using Scales At Short Weight

Louis Levin, a junk dealer living at 84 Wallace court, was arraigned before Judge Frederic A. Bartlett in the city court this morning charged with violating the statutes regarding the use of improper weighing scales. His case was continued until Tuesday under bonds of \$50.

Levin was accosted at the junction of Fairfield avenue and State street yesterday afternoon by Sealer of Weights and Measures Dennis Kelly. The Sealer demanded to see Levin's scales and when they were produced he caused the arrest of the junkman.

Theatre Employes Present Gold Watch To William J. Cotter

William J. ("Bill") Cotter, for the last four years superintendent of Potomac theatre here, leaves to-morrow for Springfield, where he will be assistant to Manager Gordon Wrighter, of Poli's Palace theatre.

This afternoon, employes of the theatre presented "Bill" with a gold watch. Mr. Cotter takes with him the best wishes of many friends here. He will be succeeded here by Alfred J. Griffin, a Bridgeport boy, who has had several years' experience in theatricals and other amusement enterprises.

MASONIC NOTES.

St. John's lodge, No. 3, will have a special communication in Masonic temple Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock to confer the Fellowcraft degree.

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